

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4 ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

February 11, 2011

Lt. Colonel Jason A. Kirk
District Engineer
Attn: Mr. Stephen Brumagin
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107

Subject: Interstate 73, SAC 2008-1333-DIS

Dear Lt. Colonel Kirk:

This is in response to your request for comments on the above referenced joint public notice (JPN). South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) ('Applicant') seeks a permit to place fill, to construct, and to maintain bridges and culverts associated with the construction of a new four lane Interstate roadway approximately 80 miles in length on new alignment within wetlands adjacent to and within waters of the United States in South Carolina. The applicant proposes permanent placement of fill materials/bridges/culverts in a total of 4,643 linear feet of streams and 271.9 acres of wetlands, temporary clearing of 48.9 acres of wetlands, permanently clearing 17.1 acres wetlands, and excavation of 4.4 acres of wetlands..

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4 has partially reviewed the JPN, and supporting information supplied by the applicant dated January 2010. We would like to further evaluate the applicant's information and collect additional information related to the project and impacts. Due to the large scale and complexity of the project, EPA requests a 30-day extension of the comment period until March 30, 2011. Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Laycock of my staff at 404-562-9132 or at laycock.kelly@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer S. Derby

Chief

Wetlands and Marine Regulatory Section

cc: See Enclosed List

CC LIST:

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